

CENTRAL LUTHERAN MESSENGER

1604 W. Yakima Avenue,
Yakima, WA 98902 (509) 575-6490
office@clcyakima.org · www.clcyakima.org
Pastor Kathleen Anderson

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**June Messenger Deadline is
May 26th, 2022**

**Please e-mail your articles to
Central Lutheran Church**

Lea.Ramirez@clcyakima.org





These two tales are from Easter Sunday, but are worth repeating. Too often we believe the lie that points are what matters—that points are more important than people. This is decidedly not true.

Jesus always chose people over anything instituted by humans, rules or traditions or doctrines, especially. The world, on the other hand, will always let us down, as the psalmist says.

TWO TALES OF THE POINTLESS PEOPLE

by Anne Herbert and Dan Erlander

I. The Snake

IN the beginning God didn't just make one or two people; God made a bunch of us. God wanted us to have a lot of fun and said you can't really have fun unless there's a whole gang of you. So God put us all in this sort of playground park place called Eden and told us to enjoy.

At first we did have fun, just like God wanted. We played all the time. We rolled down the hills, waded in the streams, climbed the trees, swung on the vines, ran in the meadows, frolicked in the woods, hid in the forest, and acted silly. We laughed a lot.

Then one day this snake told us that we weren't having real fun because we weren't keeping score. Back then, we didn't know what score was. When he explained it, we still couldn't see the fun. But he said that we should give an apple to the person who was best at playing and we'd never know who was best unless we kept score. We could all see the fun of that. We were all sure we were best.

It was different after that. We yelled a lot. We had to make up new scoring rules for most of the games we played. Other games, like frolicking, we stopped playing because they were too hard to score. By the time God found out about our new fun, we were only spending about 45 minutes a day in actual playing and the rest of the time working out the score. God was wroth about that—very, very wroth.

God said we couldn't use the garden any more because we weren't having any fun. We said we were having lots of fun and we were. God shouldn't have got upset just because it wasn't exactly the kind of fun God had in mind.

God wouldn't listen.

God kicked us out and said we couldn't come back until we stopped keeping score. To rub it in (to get our attention), God told us that we were all going to die anyway and our scores wouldn't mean anything.

God was wrong. Really, it was life in Eden that didn't mean anything. Fun is great in its place, but without scoring there's no reason for it. God has a very superficial view of life. We were lucky to get out. We're all very grateful to the snake.

2. The Birth of the Pointless People

One day, God looked at the ol' gang and remembered how they once waded in the streams, rolled down the hills, climbed on the trees, swung on the vines, frolicked in the woods, and acted silly. And now God saw them frantically piling up their points and condemning those without enough points. God became more wroth. God's anger burned hotly, and God cried, "I will destroy them!"

But then God wept and said, "I cannot destroy them." And God repented. After trying many and various ways to call the people back to pointlessness, God smiled and exclaimed: "I have another plan. I'll enter the world of the point keepers in a way that will be gentle, very gentle."

And so God entered the world of point keepers as Emmanuel—God with us. And what Emmanuel did was this: tip-toed up to people who didn't have very many points, or who had no points, and whispered in their ears, "You don't need points." And they smiled. "Maybe it's true!"

And then Emmanuel invited them to a party. They accepted the invitation and they ate and drank and ate some more and danced and frolicked and laughed. And one of them cried out, “This party is pointless!” The people said, “Amen!” And everybody laughed.

Others came to the party and they stood around the edges to see what was going on. Emmanuel turned to them and said, “Come to me all you who are burdened by keeping score and I will give you rest.”

All the people who were in charge of the scorekeeping were threatened. They arrested Emmanuel and killed him. Emmanuel’s followers wept. They said, “It was too good to be true. There’s only one thing to do now: go back to keeping score.” They laid him in a borrowed tomb and then returned to Jerusalem to find an employment agency.

While they were gone, God said, “The scorekeepers think everything is back to normal. Ha!” Then God called to Emmanuel in the tomb, “Get up, Emmanuel! Get up!” Emmanuel got up, met his friends and cried, “Let’s get on with the parties! Let’s continue our work!”

After a brief hesitation, they joined hands and the dance went on. Then Emmanuel breathed on them and they received power to carry his yoke—the yoke of caring for each other, caring for the world, and getting in trouble with the scorekeepers. Before he left, however, Emmanuel whispered, “Remember, the snake was wrong.”

In this Easter season, let’s celebrate how pointless Jesus was and how we have inherited that in our pointless faith.

Remember, the snake was wrong. Don’t fall into the trap of thinking that your points will save you. They won’t. In fact, they mean nothing to us or to God.

Until God’s shalom fills the world and all of us—Pastor Anderson



Isaiah 43:19

I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

Flowers are blooming, the sun is starting to peek out from behind the clouds, and there are calves in the fields! Spring has arrived!

Like the subtle changes we see as we move from late winter into spring, we are beginning to see a slow shift into the next stage of the pandemic. I know it feels like we're moving at the speed of setting jello (insert Lutheran joke here), but let's take a moment to reflect on some exciting things that have happened in just the last three weeks: we're passing the Peace, over two-hundred people worshipped at Central on Easter morning, we are receiving communion at the rail before the sending hymn, children were dancing at movie night, we've added an area in our sanctuary for caregivers and infants, and we have two opportunities to worship on Sunday mornings in person as well as the option to watch online. **We're about to come together for our first potluck together in over two years!**

While staying appropriately cautious, what would you like to see as we move into spring and summer? We know that seems like a rhetorical question, but we promise, it's not. What would you like to see and do at Central as we move into the spring, summer, and beyond? We really do want to know. Please call a council member, committee member, or the church office with your ideas and offers to "spring forward"!

April 16th, 2022 Pastor Kathleen Anderson baptized Tim Frank's two new grandsons.



Brooks John Robey
Born November 28,
2021 to the proud
parents Nathan and
Hillary Robey

Cooper Thomas Valicoff
Born December 9, 2021
to the proud parents
Brett and Brittany
Valicoff





We are asking for volunteers to make coffee after church on Sundays for the months of May and June. Also, another plea for people to bring any snack for those Sundays as well. It does not need to be the full amount for all; just whatever they feel they can offer. I have a sign-up sheet pinned on the board in the narthex for them to sign up for this. Let that be said in the announcement. Thank you. Kirsten



A good, old-fashioned, Lutheran potluck on May 1! A celebration of lights (we have new lighting in the sanctuary) and a celebration out of isolation of the pandemic. If your last name begins with A-H, we suggest you bring a salad. I-O please bring a main dish, P-Z a dessert. Bring your own table service, coffee and juice will be provided. Lunch starts at 12:00; we hope to see you there! This is a great chance to meet new people and visit with friends you've known.

Join us Sunday mornings for 11am Worship April 24th through June 5th

We will be offering an eleven am worship service beginning the Sunday after Easter until Pentecost Sunday.

This service will replace the experimental four pm worship service and will be more causal than the nine am worship service.

If this service is something that you would like to see continue after Pentecost Sunday please be sure to share your feedback with a member of our Worship Committee and/or Congregational Council.

We hope to see you there!





Thank you to Robin Kasala for cleaning, repairing and organizing all of the choir robes. A large job that took many hours and is greatly appreciated by the Central Lutheran Festival Choir.

Central Lutheran Church has always been a cornerstone for Elynors life. You have been her friend and family all along. She truly enjoyed every aspect and moment of being part of this congregation.

Thank you to everyone who gave of their time and talents to honor her and to everyone who came to celebrate her life.
The Raehr Family



Manny works hard as custodian.
Thanks Manny for all you do!



Thank you to Karen Bodeen, Kirsten Monick, Katy Svendsen, Elise Bowman, Erika Vestad, Robin Emmons, Sarah Brown, Karen Baken, Kris Vestad and Jane Peterson for creating and assembling the Easter decorations for CLC.



Thank you to the Piecemakers and the Funeral Committee for making the Fellowship Hall look so special for Elynor Roehr's reception following her Memorial.



“Celebrating Central”



2nd Joseph Baken & Joyce Hagen

3rd Stephen Merz

4th Janice Lyon

6th Diana Luqin-Monroy

8th Nicholas Perry

9th Ciela Switzer, Ria Desmarias & Don Johnson

12th Carly Riehl

13th Kyle Chapman, Adele Bainter, Felicity Pittman

14th Jazmyn Durels

15th Irene Hausken

17th Jean Scheid

21st Laura Hahn, Christoph Martin, Kylie Svendsen

24th Nancy Melville & Finley Hahn-Keenan

27th Jodee Huylar

28th Matthew Argo



17th Stephen and Sonya Merz

18th Greg and Jodee Huylar

20th Don and Mary Johnson

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

Lynda Birmingham

Phyllis Gillihan (Ponderosa)

Chet Hausken (Landmark)

Art Ries (Livingcare)

Toni Perschke (Avamere)

Betty Douglas

Dale & Janice Miller

Wilma Aspevig

Doris Benish

Marie Halverson

Kyle Dixon

Elaine Bueling (Covenant House)

Mel Carlson (Fieldstone Memory Care)

Tim Schulz

Joanne Puyear (Arbor House)

Carol Nelson



Council member Jennifer Crane had her baby April 22, 2022 Vivian Reid

(9.48 lbs and 21.5 in long)



Tuesday May 3rd 7:00 pm Endowment Meeting

Thursday May 5th 1:00 pm Hospitality Meeting

2:00 pm Worship Committee

Monday May 9th 6:00 pm Property Meeting

Monday May 16th 6:30 pm Council Committee Meeting

Friday May 20th Altar Guild Meeting



MAY 30th, 2022



New area in the Sanctuary for infants and toddlers to play quietly for Sunday Worship. Parents can still see and enjoy worship. The nursery is also available.

Church In Society

Camp Hope folks were served a nice dinner of baked potatoes, topped with chili, cheese, and sour cream, Green bean casserole, and nice dessert of brownies and ice cream. They are always very appreciative and many enjoyed seconds.

A BIG thanks to a wonderful team that included: Kris Vestad, Holly Gonseth, Kristy Larson, Helen Riehl, Karen and Jim Bodeen, Nicole and Shane Pierone, Kirsten Monick, Karen Baken, Devyani Baken, Marion Jones, Melanie Sanderson, and Bruce and Ann Willis.

Recycling: Ron Burkhardt is doing a wonderful thing in hauling our church recycling in every week. Yay, Ron!

Also a big thank-you to Kirsten Monick for taking home the numerous bean and chili cans from our Camp Hope cooking to wash and recycle.

Caring for Creation: Plant a Tree!

We have focused on bad stuff...plastics.

Now lets talk about something positive....TREES! As gardening season begins in earnest think about planting a tree or two.

A tree is a wonderful thing that can do good in many ways.

*Reducing Climate Change by eliminating carbon dioxide from the air and producing oxygen. In a year an acre of trees can absorb the amount of carbon dioxide that is the equivalent of driving a car for 26,000 miles! Just one tree can produce enough oxygen for four people.

*Purifying the Air as trees absorb polluting gases besides CO₂. They also absorb nitrogen oxides, ozone, ammonia, and sulfur dioxide. Trees even absorb bad smells as small particulates get trapped in the leaves and removed. It is not just an illusion that forests smell good, the trees are purifying the air!

*Natural Air Conditioning is a benefit from trees planted in strategic places around your home. The shade can make your home significantly cooler, saving you money and making summers more pleasant.

*Saving water is a result of the presence of trees in your yard. A tree may need about 15 gallons of water per week, but then they can release about 200-450 gallons of water into the air per day. In the shade of a tree the lower, shaded vegetation experiences slower evaporation and thus conserves water by needing less watering.

So many benefits of planting a tree!





Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



[THANK YOU]

To the members of
Central Lutheran Church - Yakima

from the

Northwest Intermountain Synod

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
In grateful appreciation for giving

\$31,759.34

for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and
churchwide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Bishop Kristen Kuempel

Synod Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Elizabeth C. Eaton

Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Treasurer's Report						
Financial results thru		March 31, 2022				
	Offerings/Income	March	Year to date	Expenses by major category		
		March	Year to date	March	Year to date	Year to date
General fund	31,120.63	79,180.34	Salaries & benefits	19,068.84	54,137.73	
Building Usage	390.00	595.00	Youth & Family	693.89	1,068.93	
other income	3.02	34.27	Worship	202.73	1,990.92	
Transfers			Hospitality	-	1,014.67	
from endowment fund	-	8,562.78	Stewardship/Church in Society	-	5,751.30	
from money market	962.12		Property	5,206.45	20,801.27	
Gertie Hein - Visitation	-	-	Office	740.35	4,188.91	
Total	32,475.77	88,372.39	Total	25,912.26	88,953.73	
	March 2022		operating income, net of transfers	\$ 5,601.39		
			net income	\$ 6,563.51		
		Year to date	operating income, net of transfers		\$ (9,144.12)	
			net loss		\$ (581.34)	

REGIONAL GATHERINGS

NORTHWEST INTERMOUNTAIN SYNOD

SPRING 2022

- April 30 - Palouse region
University Inn, Moscow, ID
- May 14 - South-central Idaho - Best Western Hotel
and Convention Center, Burley, ID
- May 21 - Central Washington
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Moses Lake, WA

The days in this part of the world are getting longer. That can only mean we are moving towards spring, and with that comes the Northwest Intermountain Synod's 2022 Regional Gatherings. Three one day events spread across our Synod territory. We look forward to welcoming Linda Staats as our facilitator for each gathering. Linda's specialty is cross-generational ministry and interactive workshops. You can learn more about Linda here. Our time together will be framed by Acts 16:6-15. In this passage, we join Paul and his companions as they strive to listen to where the Holy Spirit might be leading them, act with courage to follow, and share the gospel of Jesus Christ with others. Ministry now, like then, requires similar practices and courage.

-Assistant to the Bishop Phil Misner

Central Lutheran members will be attending the Regional Gathering in Moses Lake on May 21st.

We encourage you to join us.

It is suggested [we] send a group including "golden age" participants in their retirement, wage earning participants in mid-life, young adults just starting out, and youth of any age. The workshop is very interactive, so even the youngest participant's attention will be held. Working together you learn from and about each other. We are also working with Luther Heights Bible Camp and Camp Lutherhaven to provide some programming for school-aged youth. We plan to have child-care available for those with younger kids.

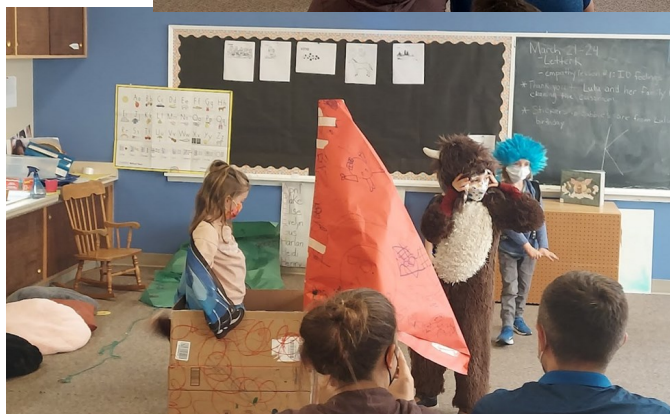
The Gathering runs 10am-4pm, check-in begins at 9am. If you would like to travel with members of Central we will be meeting in the lower parking lot to get into the van at 7:30am. We should be back in Yakima at approximately 6:30pm.

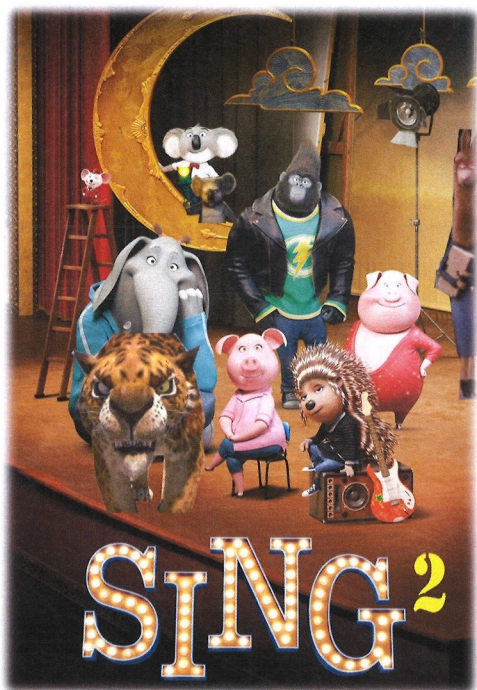


Wednesday
Youth
painted
pots for
Earth Day.



Preschool did the play “Where the Wild Things Are”.





Movie Night

May 19th, 6pm

With his theatrical company a local success, Buster Moon is dreaming of bigger things. Unfortunately, when a talent scout dismisses their work as inadequate for the big time, Buster is driven to prove her wrong. With a tight production window with only a vague story idea and dire consequences for failure, Buster and his friends must all stretch their talents put on a show against all odds. In that struggle, the gang's challenges seem insurmountable, but each of them finds new inspirations and friends where they least expect them to pursue an artistic dream worthy of them.

-IMDb



PG
Free
6-8pm

Join us for this family friendly movie in our, Central Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall on May 19th at 6pm. Children, and adults, are welcome to come dressed in your comfy clothes or pajamas! We look forward to seeing you!



7:50-8pm
Sing-a-long!

Central Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall
1604 W Yakima Ave
Chestnut Entrance
CVLI #504218490



Tuesday mornings 10 am Bible Study - Pastor Kathleen is helping this class explore how all the Bible stories we know and love fit together as the bigger story of God and God's people. You are always welcome to join any time in room 204.

Sunday 10am Class - Grab a cup and a cookie and come down to the AV room in the basement to learn from one another and to teach one another. The dates are: May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 time is 10:00 am with reception of new members planned for June 5, the Day of Pentecost.



IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR CAMP!

Felicity will be driving the van to, working as resource staff, and staying at Lutherhaven the week of June 26th-July 1st. If you would like to register your children for that week please go to Lutherhaven.com and click on "Find Your Camp".

Register and pay in full by 3/15 for a \$20 Trading Post credit on your camper's account.

Questions? Email Felicity at felicity.pittman@clcyakima.org



May

